

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DISTRIBUTED  
NETWORK ACCESS AND CONTROL ENABLING  
HIGH AVAILABILITY, SECURITY AND SURVIVABILITY**

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

5           A system, method and computer program that administers access and security  
on a network having more than one computer system connected thereto. This system,  
method and computer program has a local password file (1500) which is one-way  
encrypted and contains user identifications, associated one-way encrypted passwords  
and associated privileges for each authorized user allowed access to the wide area  
10 network (10). A user login module (1200) is used to receive a user identification or  
role and password from a user and login the user when a match is found in the local  
password file (1500). A channel monitoring and filtering module (1000) is provided to  
monitor and receive broadcast or multicast messages within the wide area network  
(10) and display the message to the user when the user's associated privileges permit  
15 the viewing of the message. This system, method and computer program also has a  
password management module (1300) to update and insure that all the computers in  
the network contain the same local password file (1500). A remote auditing module  
(1400) is provided to monitor and process anomalous events which may occur on a  
user's computer. A remote control module is also provided to enable a systems  
20 administrator or security officer to take appropriate action when a critical event  
transpires. An authentication module is also provided to enable a system administrator  
or security officer an option to check and confirm a password entered by a user for re-  
authentication.